

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BUCAR 02144 231427Z  
ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 /017 W  
-----231430Z 056056 /46

P 231320Z MAR 77  
FM AAMEMBASSY BUCHAREST  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2355  
USIA WASHDC PRIORITY

UNCLAS BUCHAREST 2144

STATE FOR CU ACTING ASST SECRETARY HITCHCOCK, CU/ARTS AND CU/EE;  
USIA FOR IEU ASS'T DIRECTOR SHIRLEY

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: SCUL, RO  
SUBJECT: SPECIAL CULT PRESENTATIONS FOR ROMANIA

REF: BUCARST 1917, BUCHAREST 1802 AND BUCHAREST 1685

1. I WANT TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF YOUR GENEROUS AND HELPFUL  
RESPONSE ON THE BULANDRA THEATRE PROJECT BEFORE THE EARTH-  
QUAKE STRUCK TO GET YOUR ASSISTANCE ON THE OTHER SIDE  
OF THE COIN-US PERFORMING ARTS GROUPS TO ROMANIA. AS YOU  
MAY KNOW, FOR A VARIETY OF REASONS THERE HAS BEEN NO MAJOR  
GROUP HERE SINCE ALVIN AILEY IN MID-1974-NEITHER FOR OUR  
BICENTENNIAL NOR SO FAR FOR THE ROMANIAN CENTENNIAL. NOR HAS  
THERE BEEN A MAJOR ART EXHIBIT HERE SINCE EARLY 1969. AS  
YOU MAY KNOW, I HAVE BEEN MAKING A SERIES OF RECOMMENDATIONS  
ON POSSIBLE AMERICAN ASSISTANCE AS A RESULT OF THE EARTHQUAKE  
WHICH UNFORTUNATELY HAS NOW BECOME PART OF THE OVERALL CONTEXT.  
WHAT THIS MESSAGE ADDRESSES IS WHAT WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO DO  
ON THE CULTURAL SIDE IN LIGHT OF ALL THE ABOVE FACTORS.

2. MAJOR US CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS COULD HAVE SUBSTANTIAL  
IMPACT IN ROMANIA IN THE NEXT MONTHS. DIVERSE OFFERS  
OF AID FROM DOZENS OF COUNTRIES ARE RECEIVING CONSIDERABLE  
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PRESS PLAY HERE AND THE UNITED STATES' CONTRIBUTIONS  
HAVE NOT BEEN OF A HIGHLY VISIBLE NATURE TO DATE, ALTHOUGH  
DULY APPRECIATED AT THE TIME. IF WE WERE THE FIRST  
FOREIGN DONOR OF A POPULAR CONCERT BENEFIT FEATURING  
AMERICAN ARTISTS OF WORLD STATURE, WE WOULD MAKE A CON-  
SIDERABLE IMPACT ON A WIDE PUBLIC WHICH IS ONE OF THE  
PRINCIPAL AIMS OF MY RECOMMENDATIONS WITH REGARD TO VARIOUS

FORMS OF MATERIAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION PHASE.  
THIS FACT PLUS THE GOOD WILL THEREBY GENERATED TOWARDS THE US  
WOULD MORE THAN JUSTIFY OUR EFFORTS AND EXPENSES IN BRINGING  
IN ROMANIA PERFORMERS LIKE COUNT BASIE AND ELLA FITZGERALD  
MENTIONED IN OUR RECENT CABLES, TO WHICH WE HAVE NOT YET HAD  
A RESPONSE. THE TIMING FRMA EHERE IS, AS THE MESSAGES  
SHOW, LATE SPRING. IF THAT TIMING NOT POSSIBLE, WE WOULD LIKE  
TO AIM FOR LATER IN THE YEAR, ESPECIALLY NOW SINCE OUR HOPES  
FOR THE LA MAMA THEATRE IN 1977 ARE NOT NOW REALIZABLE (BUCHAREST  
2111).

3. IN SUM, IT IS MY VIEW THAT THE BENEFITS DERIVED FROM MAJOR  
CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS CAN PRODUCE POSITIVE POLITICAL RESULTS  
UNDER THE TYPE OF CIRCUMSTANCES EXISTING IN ROMANIA TODAY.  
BARNES

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DISASTER RELIEF, CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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